

REMARKS

Drawings:

Fig. 2b has been amended to remove the reference number "540".

Claims:

The applicant thanks the examiner for allowing claim 6. The applicant has amended claim 6 to be slightly broader, such as changing "IPv4 address" and "IP address" to "network address," and changing "a bit '1' or bit '0'" to "an independent index or a dependent index." The amendments are supported by the specification. The applicant contends that amended claim 6 is patentable over the prior art.

Claims 1-3, 7, and 8 have been cancelled. The rejections to those claims are moot in view of the cancellations.

Claims 4 and 5 have been amended to depend on claim 6, and are patentable for at least the same reasons as claim 6.

Please apply any charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050, reference 13613-002001.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached replacement drawing sheet includes changes to FIG. 2b and replaces the original sheet including FIG. 2b.

In FIG. 2b, the reference number "540" has been deleted.